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Name

Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors: Thomas R. Cech et al.

Art Unit: 1632

Filing Date: January 11, 2002

Examiner: Louis D. Lieto, Ph.D.

Serial No: 10/044,539

Docket: 015389-002630US; 018/212c

Title: MAMMALIAN CELLS THAT HAVE
INCREASED PROLIFERATIVE CAPACITY

SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria VA 22313

Dear Sir,

This paper is supplemental to the response filed April 4, 2005, which was fully responsive to the most recent Office Action on the merits, dated November 2, 2004. Please enter the following remarks and the enclosed papers.

PATENT
USSN 10/044,539
Docket 002630US; 018/212c

Enclosed is a Declaration under 37 CFR § 1.132 by Gregg Morin, Ph.D., coinventor on this application.

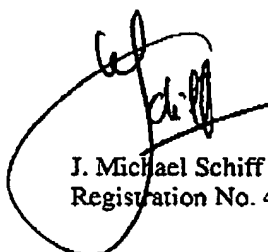
Dr. Morin explains that the strategy of deleting residues from each end of a protein sequence was regularly used in functional mapping analysis of proteins before the time this patent application was filed. He also explains that functional fragments of hTERT having residues deleted from either end of the protein, from the full length of hTERT down to the minimal core protein, could be identified using the materials and methods provided in the specification without undue experimentation.

There is no reason to believe that making functional fragments of hTERT would pose substantial difficulty. With the exception of the hTERT sequence, all knowledge necessary to do so was already in the hands of the public. Accordingly, the specification is enabling for the making of hTERT fragments as currently claimed.

Withdrawal of all rejections under 35 USC § 112 ¶ 1 and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Should the Patent Office determine that a further extension of time or any other relief is required for further consideration of this application, applicants hereby petition for such relief, and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and other fees due in connection with the filing of these papers to Deposit Account No. 07-1139, referencing the docket number indicated above.

Respectfully submitted,



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April 11, 2005